

24 May 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Martin

THROUGH :

SUBJECT : Activities of the COINS File Working Group

1. By memorandum of 9 April 1973, General Allen nominated me to Dr. Hall as the DCI representative on the COINS file working group under the chairmanship of Norman Solat, OASD(I). Guidance [redacted] of 9 April instructed that I monitor progress of the working group, sensitive to policy and security issues of interest to the DCI, and supportive of system improvements within budgetary constraints and subject to possible savings and trade-offs.

2. This working group has met twice to date, and other meetings are scheduled at about 3 week intervals, this being the interval required for the DIA, NSA, CIA and State working members to collect and evaluate information within their own agencies. The present series of meetings are focusing on the identification of files that on a priority basis should be included in COINS, based on the anticipated consumer (intelligence analyst) usage and technical considerations regarding the ease of incorporation into COINS. The first meeting on 19 April 1973 was principally organizational. The second meeting on 17 May 1973 identified the degree of interest of potential consumers in a group of IMAGERY files. The third meeting, scheduled for 7 June will consider interest in a group of Order of Battle files.

3. Mr. Solat is a competent chairman, and the working members from the several agencies have, for the most part, been together on the prior COINS report prepared by Dr. Malkin of ASD(I) last fall. The members are working on a level of exchanging technical information, and they are proceeding about as smoothly and rapidly as the details of the subject matter would permit. On the whole this is, to date, an effective and cooperative committee that is moving along in an orderly, planned manner.

4. In these initial meetings, no consideration is being given to budget cycle deadlines, and funding for COINS has not been raised for group discussion. To date no security or policy matters of interest to the DCI have arisen.

5. When the review of individual files has been completed, the Chairman intends to have the working group prepare a "detailed plan for the rapid and orderly implementation of the data base arrangements" identified by the committee as desirable modifications for COINS. "The plan will address factors such as update and maintenance schedule and responsibilities, software requirements, etc." The Chairman hopes to complete this plan in late September.

12/

[Redacted]

Data Support Group
IC/CCG

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cc:

[Redacted]

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